Asylum Notes.

By MARGARET A. CLEAVES, M.D.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS FOR ASYLUM PHYSICIANS.

Examinations were held January 29th, March 5th and June 11th, 1891, at Albany, for the respective positions of Superintendents, First Assistant Physicians, Junior Assistant Physicians and Female Resident Physicians.

Of thirty-four candidates who presented themselves, twenty passed. Twenty-five of these candidates were men, of whom fifteen passed with ratings varying from seventy-six to ninety-six per cent. Nine were women, of whom seven passed with ratings varying from seventy to ninety-four per cent.

APPOINTMENTS IN NEW YORK STATE HOSPITALS.

From the eligible lists prepared as the result of the above examinations, the following appointments have been made:

On March 5, 1891, Dr. Samuel F. Mellen, of Sing Sing, N. Y., was appointed Junior Assistant Physician at the Willard State Hospital.

On April 25, 1891, Dr. Robert G. Cook, of Rochester, N. Y., was appointed Junior Assistant Physician to the St. Lawrence State Hospital, Ogdensburg.

FEMALE RESIDENT PHYSICIANS.

On April 23d, Dr. Clara Smith, of Syracuse, N. Y., was appointed to the State Hospital at Utica.

On April 27, 1891, Dr. Caroline S. Bristol, of West Sand Lake, N. Y., to the St. Lawrence State Hospital, Ogdensburg.

On July 1, 1891, Dr. Eveline P. Ballantine, of Le Roy, N. Y., to the Rochester State Hospital.

Under the new law governing the appointment of female resident physicians to the State hospitals for the insane, six appointments have been made. In addition to those just enumerated, Dr. Caroline I. Pease is at Poughkeepsie, Dr. Eleanor McAllister at Buffalo, and Dr. E. G. Irwin at Binghamton.

The first appointment of a woman as assistant physician in a hospital for the insane was made some twenty years ago.

An open competitive examination of candidates for junior assistant physicians in any of the State hospitals and asylums will be held at the rooms of the Civil Service Commission, Albany, N. Y., Thursday, August 20, 1891, commencing at 10 A.M.

Candidates must be citizens of the State of New York, at least twenty-one years of age, and have had at least one year's experience in a hospital or three years experience in the general practice of medicine.

STATE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, MT. PLEASANT, IOWA.

This, the oldest hospital for the insane in the State of Iowa, having been in existence now thirty-four years, has been much enlarged and improved under the energetic management of the present superintendent, Dr. H. A. Silman. The capacity, eight hundred patients, is double that of ten years ago.

Recently completed and much-needed improvements are in the way of a cold storage, a new ice-house with a capacity of one thousand tons, a one hundred and fifty horse power engine, replacing the one in use for thirty years, and a new slaughter and packing house which is in process of construction. All these improvements tend directly to the material welfare of the household. But we can but feel that both superintendent and patients are to be especially congratulated upon the near completion of a new amusement hall, capable of seating five or six hundred patients, and the enlargement of the old chapel which heretofore has done duty as church, concert hall, theatre and ball-room, and which with a capacity of but two hundred, has for full fifteen years been entirely inadequate to the needs of the institution. The floor space has been enlarged and a circular gallery put in, so that it will now accommodate all who desire to